

"conditioned lethal" is semilethal with these factors, which are being analyzed as to whether they are simple or complex, and whether they are chromosomal or cytoplasmic.

TECHNICAL NOTES

Anders, Georges, and Schmitter, Marco A method of mass investigations in *Drosophila* eggs.

Eggs are collected, dechorionated with sodium hypochlorite, and washed in distilled water, after which they are placed in rows on a glass slide and allowed to adhere by drying. Then they are treated in the

following way:

1. Prick each egg gently with a steel needle and let the exuding content dry.
2. Submerge the slide for several minutes in a dish containing ca. 0.5% collodion in a mixture of equal parts of ether and absolute alcohol.
3. Allow to dry for several seconds and put in 70% alcohol for 5 minutes.
4. Let remain for 10 minutes in distilled water.
5. Transfer the slide to 1 N HCl at 60° for 6 minutes.
6. Wash for several minutes in distilled water.
7. Stain in Feulgen dye for 2 to 3 hours.
8. Wash for 1 hour in running tap water.
9. Run up through alcohols to Euparal.

In order to avoid plasmal reaction the slide may be treated before hydrolysis with 96% alcohol in the usual way. Moreover, after dying, the eggs may be washed with SO₂-water to prevent staining of cytoplasm. Both treatments we found to be unnecessary for current work. The method is useful for testing fertilization in young eggs and for determination of the stage at which embryos belonging to a lethal genotype die.

Clancy, C. W. "Seeding" cultures with Fleischmann's New Dry Yeast.

I find a saltcellar (shaker) very convenient for distributing the few granules of this material required to properly inoculate a vial or bottle with live yeast.

Green, M. M. Rapid preparation of cornmeal-agar medium.

We have found that the use of a pressure cooker of the type commonly used in home canning facilitates the preparation of the

usual cornmeal-agar medium. A measured amount of water (according to the volume of medium to be prepared) is brought to a boil in the uncovered cooker. The other ingredients--agar, soaked cornmeal, molasses, brewers' yeast, etc.--are added, the cooker is covered, and the material autoclaved for 10 minutes. The resultant medium is ready for pouring. Since the water loss by this procedure is small as compared to the loss during the usual methods of preparing media, the amount of water used is decreased by 10%.

Herskowitz, Irwin H. Grid-smear technique for electron microscopy of salivary-gland chromosomes.

Several techniques have been described for the preparation of *Drosophila* salivary-gland chromosomes for electron microscopy, employing replicas (casts), stained sections, and stained smears. This note describes a new and very simple technique for such preparations. Full-grown larvae of *D. melanogaster* are placed in 60 per cent acetic acid, and the salivary glands removed. After 10 minutes in this solution the glands are transferred to a 200-mesh nickel grid previously coated with a water-floated